

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM  
RELEASE AS SANITIZED

~~SECRET~~

DD/P

9249

2003

8 March 1954

MEMORANDUM FOR: DEPUTY DIRECTOR (PLANS)

SUBJECT: Selection of a Clandestine Radio Site.

1. Although the matter of a clandestine radio station for PBSUCCESS has been fully accepted and approved in principle, because of the security hazards involved in the use of any of the available sites, a careful study by the Assistant Director for Communications and the PBSUCCESS desk at Headquarters was requested.

2. After careful consideration of the advantages and disadvantages of all possible sites, the Assistant Director for Communications recommends that approval be granted to proceed with the installation at Santa Fe and following its completion the installation of a diversionary station in KMFLUSH.

It states that U.S. Government interest will be disclosed when the broadcast is located as originating at Santa Fe.

3. Mr. Esterline, in charge of the PBSUCCESS desk at Headquarters, has written a memorandum with additional comments re the security risks. These comments are inspired by information developed from highly sensitive sources, indicating that the Guatemalan Intelligence Service has penetrated certain phases of PBSUCCESS, and the desk's knowledge of the details which led to the issuance of a "white paper". The desk emphasizes even more strongly the probability that a clandestine radio station would become exposed upon its inception and if exposed there is every reason to expect the Guatemalan Government to make full use of its knowledge in attacking the United States.

Recommendation:

That Santa Fe be installed only after approval by the DCI and concurrence appropriate officials of the Department of State subsequent to a clear statement of the risks involved as described in attached memoranda.

(J. C. KING  
Chief, WHC

~~SECRET~~